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RECENT ANALYSIS AND COMPARISON OF FACILITIES AT NENOKSA MISSILE TEST CENTER, SEVERODVINSK NAVAL BASE AND SHIPYARD 402, AND KAPUSTIN YAR MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE MISSILE CARRIED BY THE NEW SOVIET Y-CLASS POLARIS-TYPE SUBMARINE

~~TOP SECRET~~

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IS THE LIQUID-FUELED KY-8.

1. TWO PROBABLE LIQUID PROPELLANT SERVICE AREAS HAVE BEEN NEWLY IDENTIFIED; ONE AT THE SEVERODVINSK NAVAL BASE AND SHIPYARD 402 AND THE OTHER AT THE NENOKSA MISSILE TEST CENTER, WHICH IS 15 MILES WEST OF SEVERODVINSK.

THE PROBABLE LIQUID PROPELLANT STORAGE AND HANDLING AREA AT SEVERODVINSK IS SEPARATELY SECURED AND IS UNLIKE OTHER PROPELLANT FACILITIES AT SEVERODVINSK. IT CONSISTS OF A LOOP ACCESS ROAD WITH TWO SERVICE APRONS, EACH ABOUT 200 FEET LONG. ADJACENT TO EACH APRON IS AN EARTH MOUNDED STORAGE TANK. ACCESS TO THIS AREA IS THROUGH THE SEVERODVINSK NAVAL MISSILE STORAGE FACILITY, WHICH IS NEAR THE Y-CLASS FITTING-OUT AREAS AND SUPPORTS THE QUAYS WHERE MISSILES ARE LOADED ON SUBMARINES AND CRUISERS. THIS AREA WAS CONSTRUCTED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 66 AND JANUARY 68.

THE AREA PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS LAUNCH AREA C AT NENOKSA, NOW APPEARS TO BE A PROBABLE LIQUID PROPELLANT HANDLING AREA. THE AREA CONSISTS OF A LOOP ACCESS ROAD WITH TWO SERVICE APRONS ABOUT 200 FEET LONG SIMILAR TO SEVERODVINSK. AN UNREVIEWED STORAGE BUILDING IS ADJACENT TO EACH APRON. THE APRONS LACK STORAGE TANKS, HOWEVER, THEY ARE SERVED BY A RAIL SPUR WHICH IS CONNECTED BY CONDUIT TO THE APRONS. THIS AREA WAS CONSTRUCTED CONCURRENTLY WITH LAUNCH AREA B AT NENOKSA AND APPEARS TO SUPPORT IT. CONSTRUCTION WAS FIRST OBSERVED IN MARCH 66 AND WAS COMPLETED BETWEEN AUGUST 67 AND APRIL 68.

2. A REANALYSIS OF LAUNCH AREA B, NENOKSA MTC, REVEALS SEVERAL DEFINITE SIMILARITIES TO LAUNCH SITE 2C-1, KAPUSTIN YAR MTC. EACH CONTAINS A PROBABLE LAUNCH TOWER APPROXIMATELY [REDACTED] WITH A CONTROL BUILDING SITUATED BENEATH OR ADJACENT TO THE TOWER. OTHER MODIFICATIONS INCLUDED THE ADDITION OF A 90-FOOT LIGHTNING ARRESTER, A LARGE CATCH BASIN, TWO SERVICE APRONS AND A SUPPORT BUILDING. EACH LAUNCH AREA ALSO CONTAINS TWO MOBILE CRANES (ONE LARGE AND ONE SMALL) WHICH APPEAR TO BE FOR MISSILE HANDLING.

THERE ARE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN THE APPEARANCE OF THE PROBABLE LAUNCH TOWER AT NENOKSA AND KAPUSTIN YAR. THE KAPUSTIN YAR TOWER CONSISTS OF A NARROW TUBE, SIX TO EIGHT FEET IN DIAMETER, WITH SEVERAL PROBABLE SERVICE PLATFORMS ATTACHED AT DIFFERENT LEVELS. THE TOWER AT NENOKSA IS HEXAGONAL IN SHAPE AND MEASURES 22 FEET IN DIAMETER. TWO POSSIBLE REASONS FOR THIS DIFFERENCE OF TOWER WIDTHS ARE THAT: (1) THE COLDER ENVIRONMENT OF THE WHITE SEA AREA COULD NECESSITATE THE ENVELOPMENT OF ALL SERVICE PLATFORMS WITHIN ONE STRUCTURE, AND/OR (2) MOTION SIMULATION MECHANISMS MAY HAVE BEEN INSTALLED WITHIN THE NENOKSA TOWER.

THE MODIFICATIONS TO LAUNCH SITE 2C-1 WERE INITIATED IN THE BEGINNING OF 65 AND APPEARED COMPLETE BY THE FALL OF 65. THE LARGE SERVICE CRANE WAS NOTED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE LAUNCH AREA IN LATE MAY 66.

THE FIRST KNOWN TEST OF THE KY-8 BALLISTIC MISSILE FROM KAPUSTIN YAR OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER 66.

THE MODIFICATIONS TO LAUNCH AREA B AT NENOKSA WERE FIRST OBSERVED IN FEBRUARY 66 AND APPEARED COMPLETE IN MAY 67. THE LARGE CRANE WAS NOTED NEAR THE PROBABLE LAUNCH TOWER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN JUNE 67. THE FIRST FIRING OF THE KY-8 MISSILE IN THE WHITE SEA AREA PROBABLY OCCURRED IN AUGUST 67. THE TIMING OF THE MODIFICATIONS AND THE APPEARANCE OF THE LAUNCH FACILITIES INDICATES THAT THE KY-8 MISSILE WAS PROBABLY LAUNCHED FROM BOTH LAUNCH SITE 2C-1 AND LAUNCH AREA B.

GP-1
T O P S E C R E T [REDACTED]

-- END OF MESSAGE --

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